Listing of the Claims

This listing replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims.

1. (Currently amended) A method for purifying or capturing a non-immunoglobulin protein of interest having between one and ten immunoglobulin-like (Ig-like) domains from a biological fluid, comprising the steps of:

   a) contacting the biological fluid containing the protein of interest with an Hydrophobic Charge Induction Chromatography (HCIC) resin, wherein the HCIC resin comprises a mercapto-ethyl pyridine ligand

   b) washing out the resin to remove unbound contaminants, and

   c) eluting the protein of interest by treating the resin with a solution having an acidic pH or with a solution comprising an organic solvent.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claims 1 [[or 2]], wherein the organic solvent used in step c) is propylene glycol.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the concentration of propylene glycol in the solution is between about 25 and 50%.

5. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein step a) is carried out at acidic pH.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5, wherein the pH used is between about 3 and 6.8.

7. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the washing of step b) is carried out with a solution having an acidic pH.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 7, wherein the pH used is between about 3 and 6.8.

9. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the biological fluid is selected from a cell-conditioned culture medium, cell lysate, cell extract, tissue extract,

blood plasma, serum, milk, urine, ascites, cerebrospinal fluid, vegetable juice, plant extracts or a fraction obtained from an earlier chromatographic separation step.

10. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protein of interest has 1 to 7 Ig-like domains.

11. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the protein of interest is selected from IL-18BP, NCAM , Fibronectin type III, ICAM-1, mad CAM-1, PE CAM-1, VCAM-1, titin, cadherin, neurocan, LIFR, CNTFR, IL-1R, IL-3R, IL5R, IL-6R, IL-12R, GM-CSFR, OSMR, VEGF receptor , FGF receptor, hPDGF receptor, T cell receptor, MHC proteins, microglobulin-β, CTLA4, B7 activation agent, neuregulin, coagulation factor XIII, NF-kB, IL6-IL6R, beta-galactosidase and superoxide dismutase or an isoform, mutein, fused protein, or fragment thereof comprising at least one Ig-like domain.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the protein is IL-18 binding protein (IL-18BP).

13.-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the purification factor of the eluted protein is in the range of 11 and 94 fold.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein the purification factor of the eluted protein is 94 fold.

17. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration factor of the eluted protein is in the range of 1.5 and 3.1 fold.

18. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 17, wherein the concentration factor of the eluted protein is 3.1 fold.

19. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the yield of the eluted protein is in the range of 73 and 98%,

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, wherein the yield of the eluted protein is about 85%.

21-45. (Cancelled)

46. (Previously presented)A method according to claim 1, wherein the purification factor of the eluted protein is in about 94 fold.